

Mid-Rivers

COMMUNICATIONS



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December 18, 2015

Montana Public Service Commission
1701 Prospect Avenue
Helena, MT 59620-2601

RE: Cable & Cellular Communications, LLC dba Mid-Rivers Cellular
Forty-Second Quarterly and Twenty-First Semi-Annual Report as
Required By Final Order 6518a
Docket No. D2003.8.105

Enclosed for filing is an original copy of Cable & Cellular Communications, LLC dba Mid-Rivers Cellular Forty-Second Quarterly and Twenty-First Semi-Annual Report as Required by Final Order 6518a in the above-referenced docket. Also, a PDF of the enclosed report has been uploaded to the filing website at <http://psc.mt.gov>.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Candelaria', is written over a blue horizontal line.

Michael Candelaria
General Manager

Enclosures

- cc: Letter w/Enclosure: Tom Smith, Moulton, Bellingham, Longo & Mather,
1900 Sheraton Plaza, Billings, MT 59103-2559
- cc: Letter w/Enclosure: Sylvia Lesse, 5151 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Suite
311, Washington DC 20016

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)	UTILITY DIVISION
CABLE & COMMUNICATIONS)	
CORPORATION, dba MID-RIVERS)	DOCKET NO. D2003.8.105
CELLULAR, for Designation as an Eligible)	
Telecommunications Carrier)	

CABLE & CELLULAR COMMUNICATIONS, LLC
dba MID-RIVERS CELLULAR'S
FORTY-SECOND QUARTERLY AND TWENTY-FIRST SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT
AS REQUIRED BY FINAL ORDER DATED MARCH 29, 2005
(PSC Order No. 6518a)

Service Date: December 21, 2015

FORTY-SECOND QUARTERLY REPORT

- I. Unsatisfied Requests – June 16 through December 15, 2015:
 - a. By location in each of the two study areas:
 - i. Mid-Rivers Study Area: zero (0).
 - ii. Range Study Area: zero (0).
 - b. Detailed description of why customer requests for service could not be satisfied: there were no unsatisfied requests.

- II. Customer Complaints – June 16 through December 15, 2015:
 - a. Number and nature of complaints: see Attachment A hereto.
 - b. Remedy employed to address complaints: see Attachment A hereto.
 - c. Location of complaints by Study Area:
 - i. Mid-Rivers: see Attachment A hereto.
 - ii. Range: see Attachment A hereto.
 - d. Number of repeat complaints: see Attachment A hereto.

- III. Federal Universal Service Funds, including Lifeline and Link Up Funds received – June 16 through December 15, 2015:
 - a. Funds received:
 - i. Interstate Common Line Support: \$0 received during this timeframe.
 - ii. High Cost Loop Support: \$0 received during this timeframe.
 - iii. Local Switching Support: \$0 received during this timeframe.

- iv. Lifeline and Link Up Funds: \$0 received to date.
- v. Frozen High Cost Support
 - 1. \$48,521.00 received in September 2015 for August 2015.
 - 2. \$48,521.00 received in October 2015 for September 2015.
 - 3. \$48,521.00 received in November 2015 for October 2015.

USF payments received by Mid-Rivers Cellular began a 20% per year decline in July 2012 and will transition to zero over five years as a result of the FCC's USF Reform Order. This phase-out of wireless support with no predictable path toward a replacement support mechanism directly affects the ability of Mid-Rivers Cellular to make additional long-term investments in network upgrades and in new wireless site construction.

NOTE:

Included as Attachment B hereto is an excerpt with a section entitled "Low Income Telephone Assistance" from the Fall 2015 issue of the "411" newsletter published by Mid-Rivers Communications for its customers.

TWENTY-FIRST SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

- IV. 5-Year Build-out Plan, updated for the period of June 16, 2015, through December 15, 2015: see Attachment D hereto.
- a. Including expanded coverage in Northern Cheyenne Reservation, unless conflicting licenses, in which case an explanation of those conflicts must be provided:
- i. Representatives from Cable & Communications Corporation conducted an on-site meeting with Jace Killsback at the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council in Lame Deer, Montana, on February 17, 2006.
 - ii. Letters addressed to Jace Killsback of the Northern Cheyenne Reservation dated May 15, 2006, and June 16, 2006, were filed with the Commission in Cable & Communications Corporation's Second Semi-Annual Report of June 27, 2006. No response has been received to date.
 - iii. A letter addressed to Jace Killsback of the Northern Cheyenne Reservation dated March 20, 2007, was mailed via certified mail/return receipt requested and was signed in receipt on March 21, 2007. This letter was filed with the Commission in Cable & Communications Corporation's Eighth Quarterly and Fourth Semi-Annual Report of June 29, 2007.
 - iv. Representatives from Cable & Communications Corporation conducted a meeting with Danny Sioux, Rosebud County

Commissioner and member of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, in Miles City, Montana, on September 11, 2007.

- v. A letter addressed to Geri Small, President of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council, mailed March 31, 2008, documenting C&CC's continuing attempts to establish cellular services on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation, was filed with the Commission in Cable & Communications Corporation's Twelfth Quarterly and Sixth Semi-Annual Report of June 17, 2008. No response has been received to date.
- vi. C&CC representatives attended a meeting with the Northern Cheyenne Economic Development Committee on July 8, 2008. C&CC offered at the meeting to conduct a propagation study at our own expense to determine the most advantageous site locations necessary to extend wireless service throughout Northern Cheyenne lands, and to share the findings of the study with President Small and the Economic Development Committee.
- vii. A letter dated August 8, 2008, was sent to Geri Small, President of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council, thanking the Northern Cheyenne Economic Development Committee for meeting with C&CC and again extending offers to conduct a propagation study at our expense and sharing with them the results of that study. This letter was filed with the Commission in C&CC's Fourteenth

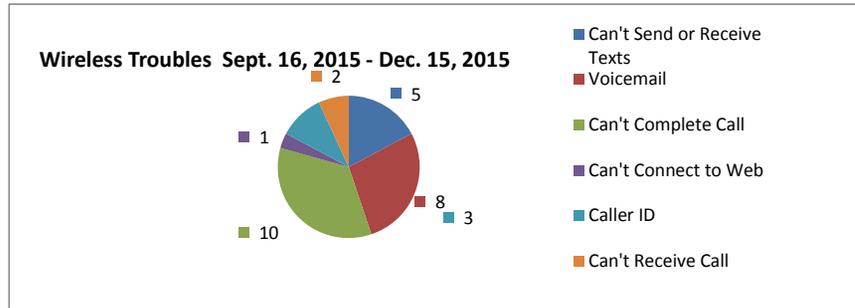
Quarterly and Seventh Semi-Annual Report Dated December 26, 2008.

- viii. A letter addressed to LeRoy Spang, President of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council, was sent December 11, 2008, expressing C&CC's interest in working with the Council to establish wireless services throughout their lands. This letter was filed with C&CC's Fourteenth Quarterly and Seventh Semi-Annual Report to the Commission dated December 26, 2008. No response has been received to date.
- ix. Copies of previous C&CC correspondence to the Northern Cheyenne were faxed to Clara Canfield, Administrator to the Tribal Chairman, per her request on December 11, 2008. A copy of that fax was filed with the Commission in C&CC's Sixteenth Quarterly and Eighth Semi-Annual Report on June 29, 2009.
- x. Once approval is granted from the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council to investigate possible wireless site locations on their land, C&CC will then address licensing requirements necessary to provide the service.

WIRELESS ETC TROUBLE REPORT

Cellular Troubles Cleared 09/16/15 - 12/15/15

Record of Complaint (Trouble Category)	Can't Send or Receive Texts	5
	Voicemail	8
	Can't Complete Call	10
	Can't Connect to Web	1
	Caller ID	3
	Can't Receive Call	2
	Total	29



Nature of the Complaint:	Study Area	Date	Remedy for Complaint or Trouble	Location of Trouble
Voicemail	(406) 913	11/19/2015	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	630 Main St; Roundup MT 59072
Can't Complete Call	(406) 913	11/25/2015	No trouble found, customer equipment checked.	927 1st St E; Roundup MT 59072
Voicemail	(406) 913	12/7/2015	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	210 Harper Coulee Rd; Roundup MT 59072
Voicemail	(406) 913	12/10/2015	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	1012 3rd St E; Roundup MT 59072
Can't Receive Call	(406) 914	12/4/2015	No trouble found, customer equipment checked.	PO Box 112; Lambert MT 59243
Can't Complete Call	(406) 915	11/9/2015	Connecting Company Trouble	1436 MT Highway 528
Can't Send or Receive Texts	(406) 928	10/18/2015	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	PO Box 201; Winnett MT 59087
Can't Receive Call	(406) 934	9/25/2015	No trouble found, customer equipment checked.	PO Box 325; Terry MT 59349
Voicemail	(406) 935	9/18/2015	No trouble found, customer equipment checked.	PO Box 56; Boyes MT 59316
Voicemail	(406) 941	11/5/2015	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	193 Highway 323; Ekalaka MT 59324
Can't Complete Call	(406) 954	12/7/2015	Connecting Company Trouble	PO Box 154; Winnetta MT 59087
Can't Complete Call	(406) 954	12/7/2015	Connecting Company Trouble	PO Box 485; Malta MT 59538
Can't Send or Receive Texts	(406) 973	9/29/2015	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	PO Box 92; Savage MT 59262
Can't Complete Call	(406) 973	11/29/2015	Connecting Company Trouble	PO Box 234; Savage MT 59262
Can't Complete Call	(406) 974	10/15/2015	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	PO Box 355; Circle MT 59215
Can't Receive Call	(406) 974	10/8/2015	No trouble found, customer equipment checked.	PO Box 303; Circle MT 59215
Can't Send or Receive Texts	(406) 974	10/15/2015	Connecting Company Trouble	1833 Union Rd; Circle MT 59215
Can't Send or Receive Texts	(406) 974	11/12/2015	No trouble found, customer equipment checked.	PO Box 556; Circle MT 59215
Can't Send or Receive Texts	(406) 974	12/3/2015	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	743 Mayberry Rd; Circle MT 59215
Voicemail	(406) 975	9/24/2015	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	PO Box 402; Ekalaka MT 59324
Can't Complete Call	(406) 975	10/2/2015	Connecting Company Trouble	PO Box 315; Ekalaka MT 59324
Can't Complete Call	(406) 978	10/26/2015	Connecting Company Trouble	PO Box 538; Baker MT 59313
Can't Complete Call	(406) 978	10/15/2015	Connecting Company Trouble	PO Box 1265; Baker MT 59313
Can't Complete Call	(406) 978	11/3/2015	Connecting Company Trouble	PO Box 1265; Baker MT 59313
Can't Connect to Web	(406) 979	10/28/2015	No trouble found, customer equipment checked.	PO Box 73; Richey MT 59259
Voicemail	(406) 983	10/20/2015	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	PO Box 77; Ashland MT 59003
Voicemail	(406) 987	9/29/2015	Repaired equipment that provides service to customer.	423 Bakken Drive; Glendive MT 59330

* Denotes Repeat Troubles

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Attachment B

Mid-Rivers Communications offers two low-income telephone assistance programs known as Lifeline & Link-Up. Lifeline provides Federal Universal Service support to reduce monthly service charges paid by qualifying low-income residential customers. Link-Up provides Federal Universal Service support to reduce service connection and line extension charges paid by qualifying low-income residential customers residing on Tribal lands. Mid-Rivers also offers toll blocking, a service that prevents long distance calling from your telephone. For more information please contact your nearest Mid-Rivers customer service office, call Mid-Rivers at 1-800-452-2288, or visit <http://www.midrivers.com/low-income-assistance/>.

Mid-Rivers Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

ATTACHMENT D

5-Year Build-Out Plan

**Cable & Cellular Communications, LLC
d/b/a
Mid-Rivers Cellular**

- a. **2005 Plan** (in addition to the Digital Upgrade, which was **completed on November 11, 2005**):
 - i. Hammond (45-12-13.4N / 104-55-33.1W)-**completed November 11, 2005**
 - ii. Baker II (46-22-5.4N / 104-16-30.2W)- **completed November 11, 2005**
 - iii. Broadus II (45-26-55N / 105-24-38W)- **completed January 26, 2006**
 - iv. Ismay (46-24-05.0N / 104-48-09.0W)- **completed January 26, 2006**

- b. **2006 Plan:**
 - i. Vida South (47-44-14.8N / 105-29-42.0W)- **completed December 22, 2006**
 - ii. North Lambert (47-47-52.9N / 104-38-13.0W) –**completed December 30, 2006**
 - iii. Richey (47-38-38.3N / 105-04-6.4W) –**completed January 23, 2007**

- c. **2007 Plan:**
 - i. Grass Range (47-01-37N / 108-48-12W) –**completed April 25, 2007**
 - ii. Roy (47-20-04.15N / 108-57-28.91W) –**completed April 25, 2007**
 - iii. Savage (47-27-10.6N / 104-20-19.7W) – **completed November 19, 2007**
 - iii. Alzada (45-03-29.8N / 104-27-9.2W) – **completed July 13, 2007**
 - iv. Volborg (45-57-15.97N / 105-38-22.98W) –**completed December 7, 2007**
 - v. Sheep Mountain (47-3-5.3N / 105-43-38.8W) –**completed December 7, 2007**
 - vi. Winnett (46-59-21.0N / 108-20-02.0W) -- **completed December 10, 2007**
 - vii. Rock Springs – **completed December 7, 2007**

- d. **2008 Plan:**
 - i. Plevna (46-27-12.9N / 104-30-42.6W) – **completed December 31, 2008**
 - ii. McGuire Creek (47-35-04.75N / 106-09-04.79W) – **completed November 19, 2008**
 - iii. North Cohagen (47-08-31.7N / 106-43-00.44W) – **completed December 19, 2008**
 - iv. Roy Site Move – **completed August 15, 2008**
 - v. Ismay Extender Upgrade to Full Site – **completed July 29, 2008**

- e. **2009 Plan:**
 - i. Lambert CO (47-40-53N/104-37-15W) – **completed June 30, 2009**
 - iii. Grass Range Site Move (to improve coverage) – (47-01-2.66N/108-46-25.70W) – **completed April 17, 2009**

- f. **Additional Sites Completed/Under Construction:**
 - i. Roundup (est. 46-27-2.39N / 108-33-26.39W) – **Completed December 31, 2010**
 - ii. Circle FST9 (47-18-57.46N / 105-56-28.19W) – **Completed November 8, 2011**
 - iii. Jordan FST9 (47-53-29.96N / 104-53-28.10W) – **Completed November 8, 2011**
 - iv. Highway 201 West (47-41-01.02N / 104-37-13.05W) – **Completed February 28, 2013**
 - v. Ekalaka Ridgway (45-30-43.03N / 104-28-24.7W) – **Completed February 25, 2013**
 - vi. Intake (47-17-46.7N / 104-32-42.4W) – **Completed February 21, 2013**
 - vii. Gardner Butte (45-19-28.6N / 105-52-17.9W) – **Completed February 21, 2013**

Construction of other future sites will be dependent upon the availability of sufficient and predictable funding through the Mobility Fund Phase II or other sources. Some rural geographic areas also remain unserved because the license is held by another cellular carrier that has met its population-based build-out requirements by serving a population center, leaving surrounding rural areas unserved.